



Meeting Minutes Vocational Training Centre Kilema / Tanzania December 2016

Location: Kilema, Tanzania

Date: December 3rd to 4th, 2016

Participants from Tanzania:

Entire project team with Father Dr. Aidan Msafiri, Tobias Makundi, Sr. Innocentia, Anthony Benedict, etc.

Participants from Austria:

Walter Koch / Chairman of PAPA Bridge

Short summary



First of all, we can report that there are strong developments in the project to make the vocational school fit for the next challenges. The focus lies on further strengthening the teaching body and the development of the production activities for self-financing. This is accompanied by necessary staff changes in the management of the school.

The visit to the village

We visited Kilema for two days, from Saturday, December 3rd, 2016, to Sunday, December 4th, 2016. On the first day, the board meeting took place with all key decision makers present and important steps being set. On the second day we had many encounters in the village, whereby it should be mentioned that there has been a pastoral change. His name is Father Henry. He has a lot of life experience and is already actively involved in our project.



The running school



With December 2016, the school year has now come to an end and again many students have completed their three-year apprenticeship. The new school year starts in January, for which we expect a total of about 130 students. As reported in the last protocol, we are on the road to transformation until the teaching staff and management are further developed. This challenge will continue to accompany us until the end of 2017. Furthermore, we want to make the selection process of the students more professional and prepare the newcomers with

special English language courses for the lessons. It is also necessary to significantly improve the housing conditions of the students in the nearby dormitory. After the implementation of these measures, we expect the student number to increase again up to about 180 young people.

Staff and teaching content

One of the main reasons for the temporary low of students is the quality of the training. Our school is equipped extremely well, but regarding the teaching performance we are only average. Here we had to understand that it is quite complex to bring very good teachers to the village. There has already been first success, but realistically it will take some time. In January, new teachers will start teaching at the VTC and support the renewal process. In addition, we have to increase the attractiveness of salary and living space and improve the selection process. In order to achieve this, we have now decided to fill the position of the school principal.



The current principal Tobias Makundi did a great job but cannot bring us to the next level. We are, however, planning to keep Makundi as a teacher with us as a team, since he has become an important support. Furthermore, we will also fill the finance division. Sister Innocentia has now managed this area with strict discipline for three years and will leave our team at about 70 years of age. We are going to work again with a nun with vocational training, who is supposed to be in service in January. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Sr. Innocentia and Mr. Makundi for their commitment during the last years!

The dormitories

As described above, we have an urgent need for renovation in the dormitories, that are nearby to the vocational school. Approximately 50% of students come from the wider surroundings of the village and have to live under really very bad circumstances.



The roof and the windows are leaking, the masonry and the outdoor areas are in extreme need for renovation.



Here we will take a bold approach and work out a short-term master plan. We are hoping for donors so we can carry out this renovation very soon in order to offer the students a decent accommodation possibility immediately. This will also make our school much more attractive to new students from the area.

The metal & welding fabrication



We have now succeeded in making the machines function and available and brought a very well-trained instructor on board who can use them. Thus, together with the teacher already there, we have two very good teachers in the metal-fabrication workshop. First products have been produced which are offered for sale. Furthermore, three former graduates of our vocational school were hired to produce with the two teachers. This new strength now gives us the opportunity to greatly expand the subject of metal & welding fabrication.



The carpentry

The carpentry is now almost finished. Last September, we had made EUR 10,000.- available for the carpentry. The work was provided by students and teachers. Now there are still small things to be done in the building. The next big step is investing in the right machines. This is followed by an evaluation and a draft investment plan.



Furthermore, we are looking for a carpenter / teacher, whom we would like to hire from another vocational school in order to have appropriate competence from the beginning. Ideally, the new carpentry could go through with mid-2017. We will keep you up to date.

Business development center (BDC)



As was already apparent from the preceding paragraphs, the carpentry's construction is proceeding according to plan, and the metal fabrication workshop is now beginning to take up the momentum with the new teacher and production team.

The bakery is running very well. Two people are engaged

permanently in the production and the need for fresh pastries is still very high. To further optimize the bakery we consider a further investment of a professional mixer and a simple warming cabinet. Then this area can go through in a larger style. We will report.

As already reported, the brick production is basically good. About 2,000 bricks are produced per month. This corresponds to a profit of about EUR 300.- per month and employs one to two people permanently. The team is still struggling with the irregularity of



orders and the fluctuating production utilization.



In general, it is now up to the local team to find the right framework for the sharing of resources to ensure a seamless interplay between teaching and training. It is still our goal with the BDC to generate ongoing sales and thus profits. From 2018 onwards, these costs will be used to cover the entire running costs of the vocational school.

Power supply / photovoltaic

We have donated about 50 photovoltaic sets (panels with cable and charging electronics) and sent them from Austria to Kilema. We are now waiting for the arrival in Kilema. We will report on the next visit.

The sponsorship program

Our sponsorship program is working really well. As some young people have completed their training with December 2016, there will be new allocations from students to godparents. We met many of the students in person. The godparents will get a current photo from our association first hand. Karin Oswald, who is responsible for the sponsors, will coordinate this as usual. Thanks to all who make these students' education possible with their monthly and regular donations. Please continue to advertise the important initiative! With EUR 25, - per month you can help a young person in need to create a better future!



Next steps

- In April / May 2017 the next project trip to Tanzania is planned.
- In July 2017, Rev. Josef Windisch will travel from Austria to Tanzania with a group.
- At the end of July / beginning of August 2017, Father Aidan will return to Austria and we will celebrate our PAPA Bridge info night with him.

At this point we would like to cordially thank our donors and supporters. This is an important and great service for the poorest people in Tanzania.

 Love and blessings,

Walter Koch – Chairman
 Father Aidan – Tanzania
 And the board of the P.A.P.A. Bridge